However, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have not been able to purchase any bio-diesel at the identified purchase Centres so far, as the parties who have expressed interest are not willing to supply at the declared price. As such the bio-diesel programme has not yet taken off.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

NREGS wages in Orissa and Chhattisgarh

†2894. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rate of wages given in Chhattisgarh and Orissa under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) is as per All-India Consumer Price Index (CPI); and

(b) if not, the measures taken to correct this discrepancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Wages are paid to the NREGA workers in accordance with the wage rate as provided in Section 6 of the Act. Section 6(1) provides that Central Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for the purposes of this Act provided that the wage rate notified by the Centre shall not be less than Rs. 60 per day.

Section 6(2) of NREGA provides that until such time as a wage rate is fixed by the Central Government in respect of any area in a State, the minimum wage fixed by the State Governments under Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers shall be the wage rate applicable to that area.

Central Government notified wage rate for NREGA workers under Section 6(1) of the Act on 1.1.2009 which taken into account the wage rate fixed by the respective State Governments under Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers. Prior to this date, wages were paid to the NREGA workers in accordance with Section 6(2) of NREG Act. Prevailing wage rate as notified by the Central Government under NREGA for Orissa is Rs. 70.00 and for Chhattisgarh is Rs.80.83.

NREGS in Himachal Pradesh

2895. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount allocated, till date, to Himachal Pradesh under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), year-wise and district-wise/Panchayat-wise;

(b) the total number of jobs created in the State under NREGS, district-wise/ Panchayat-wise;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of complaints received so far regarding irregularities in the scheme, in the State, district-wise/Panchayat wise; and

(d) the details of complaints which are still pending, district-wise/Panchayat-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) NREGA is demand based and not an allocation based programme. Upto the Financial Year 2008-09, district-wise funds were released by the Central Government to Himachal Pradesh. As the State Government has established State Employment Guarantee Funds from 2009-10, funds are being released into the State Fund. Funds under NREGA are not released to the Panchayats directly. District-wise funds released to Himachal Pradesh during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given in Annexure-I. During 2009-10, a sum of Rs. 33177.61 lakh has been released to the State Employment Guarantee Fund of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) District-wise number of persondays of employment generated during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) and (d) A total of 11 complaints from various districts of Himachal Pradesh regarding irregularities in the implementation of NREGA have so far been received. 8 complaints have been disposed off and 3 complaints are pending. District-wise status of complaints is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

District-wise number of persondays of Employment

(In lakhs)

Sl. No.	Districts	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10 upto Nov., 09
		Central Release	Cumulative Persondays generated	Central Release	Cumulative Persondays generated	Central Release	Cumulative Persondays generated	Cumulative Persondays generated
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Chamba	3344.64	23.19	2821.51	22.44	4410.47	29.50	25.98
2.	Sirmaur	863.00	6.71	585.92	7.39	2208.77	14.28	8.79
3.	Kangra			4847.04	32.97	10362.74	56.26	41.07
4.	Mandi			4023.59	34.73	14971.01	55.76	37.21
5.	Bilaspur					828.79	4.77	3.12
6.	Hamirpur					1956.84	9.80	6.92
7.	Kinnaur					353.24	1.68	1.55
8.	Kullu					2014.09	6.84	7.26
9.	Spiti					61.19	1.05	1.05

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Shimla					963.80	11.14	10.60
11.	Solan					1130.40	5.23	5.69
12.	UNA					1713.29	8.97	7.16
	TOTAL:	4207.64	29.90	12278.06	97.53	40974.63	205.28	156.40

Statement-II

District-wise status of complaints

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Total No. of complaints received	Status of the complaint
1.	Kangra	5	4 complaints disposed off and 1 is pending
2.	Mandi	3	2 complaints disposed off and 1 is pending
3.	Solan	1	pending
4.	Sirmaur	2	Both complaints disposed off.

Child labour under NREGS projects

2896. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of engaging child labour in works undertaken under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to strengthen monitoring of NREGA projects to discount such occurrences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) As per report received from the State Government of Rajasthan, the State Government has received one complaint from Sh. Laxman Singh, Kishnaram, Dungarram, Birjaram and Other of Himmatsar village, Gram Panchayat Himmatsar, Panchayat Samiti Nokha, District Bikaner regarding engaging child labour.

(c) The preamble of NREG Act clearly stipulates that the Act provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose *adult* members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. In Section 2(a) of the Act, the term "adult" has been defined as a person who has completed his eighteenth years of age. Further, age of a person has to be given in the application for registration for issue of a job card and is also to be indicated